

CLAIMS

I CLAIM:

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1. A control system, comprising:
an automation device operably connected to a network;
a network device operably connected to the network; and,
5 an application program stored in the network device, wherein the application program controls the automation device, and wherein the application program is selected in response to an application program request message sent from the automation device.
- 10 2. The control system of claim 1 wherein the application program comprises an executive code and a user code.
3. The control system of claim 2 wherein the user code is selected in response to the application program request message sent from the automation device and
15 the executive code is selected in response to the user code selected.
4. The control system of claim 1 wherein the automation device is a programmable logic controller.
- 20 5. The control system of claim 1 wherein the network device is a server.
6. The control system of claim 4 wherein the server has a TCP/IP protocol stack.
- 25 7. The control system of claim 1 wherein the network is Internet.

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selecting an executive program in response to the user application program selected.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the application program further
 5 comprises:
 an executive program code for the automation device; and,
 a user program code for the automation device, the user program is selected in response to the message requesting the application program.

10 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the executive program code is customized in response to the message requesting the application program to meet the minimum requirements for executing the application program.

17. A network control system, comprising:
 15 means for operably connecting a network device to the network control system, the network device stores an application program for controlling an automation device;
 means for transmitting a message requesting the application program;
 means for selecting the application program in response to the message
 20 requesting the application program;
 means for transmitting the application program to the automation device; and,
 means for installing the application program.

18. The network control system of claim 17 wherein the means for selecting
 25 comprises means for customizing the application program to meet the minimum requirements for executing the application program in response to the request for the application program.

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19. The network control system of claim 17 wherein the automation device is a controller.

20. The network control system of claim 17 wherein the network device is a
5 server.

21. A method of operating a control system on a network comprising the steps of:

10 providing a network device for storing an application program to be executed on an automation device;
requesting the application program for the automation device;
selecting the application program in response to the request;
transmitting the application program to the automation device; and,
installing the application program on the automation device.

15 22. The method of claim 21 wherein the selecting the application program includes customizing the application program to meet the minimum requirements for executing the application program selected in response to the message requesting the application program.

20 23. The method of claim 22 wherein the customizing the application program comprises:

25 selecting a user code in response to the message requesting the application program; and,
selecting an executive code in response to the user code selected.

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